

the appropriate committees of Congress concerning the results of the study conducted pursuant to paragraph (1) and the data aggregated under paragraph (2).

SEC. 10. EFFECT ON OTHER LAWS.

(a) **FEDERAL AND STATE ANTIDISCRIMINATION LAWS.**—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to modify or affect any Federal or State law prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability.

(b) **STATE AND LOCAL LAWS.**—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to supersede any provision of any State or local law that provides greater paid sick leave or other leave rights than the rights established under this Act.

SEC. 11. EFFECT ON EXISTING EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS.

(a) **MORE PROTECTIVE.**—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to diminish the obligation of an employer to comply with any contract, collective bargaining agreement, or any employment benefit program or plan that provides greater paid sick leave rights to employees or individuals than the rights established under this Act.

(b) **LESS PROTECTIVE.**—The rights established for employees under this Act shall not be diminished by any contract, collective bargaining agreement, or any employment benefit program or plan.

SEC. 12. ENCOURAGEMENT OF MORE GENEROUS LEAVE POLICIES.

Nothing in this Act shall be construed to discourage employers from adopting or retaining leave policies more generous than policies that comply with the requirements of this Act.

SEC. 13. REGULATIONS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—

(1) **AUTHORITY.**—Except as provided in paragraph (2), not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall prescribe such regulations as are necessary to carry out this Act with respect to employees described in clause (i) or (ii) of section 4(2)(A) and other individuals affected by employers described in subclause (I) or (II) of section 4(3)(A)(i).

(2) **GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE; LIBRARY OF CONGRESS.**—The Comptroller General of the United States and the Librarian of Congress shall prescribe the regulations with respect to employees of the Government Accountability Office and the Library of Congress, respectively and other individuals affected by the Comptroller General of the United States and the Librarian of Congress, respectively.

(b) **EMPLOYEES COVERED BY CONGRESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 1995.**—

(1) **AUTHORITY.**—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Board of Directors of the Office of Compliance shall prescribe (in accordance with section 304 of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1384)) such regulations as are necessary to carry out this Act with respect to employees described in section 4(2)(A)(iii) and other individuals affected by employers described in section 4(3)(A)(i)(III).

(2) **AGENCY REGULATIONS.**—The regulations prescribed under paragraph (1) shall be the same as substantive regulations promulgated by the Secretary to carry out this Act except insofar as the Board may determine, for good cause shown and stated together with the regulations prescribed under paragraph (1), that a modification of such regulations would be more effective for the implementation of the rights and protections involved under this section.

(c) **EMPLOYEES COVERED BY CHAPTER 5 OF TITLE 3, UNITED STATES CODE.**—

(1) **AUTHORITY.**—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the

President (or the designee of the President) shall prescribe such regulations as are necessary to carry out this Act with respect to employees described in section 4(2)(A)(iv) and other individuals affected by employers described in section 4(3)(A)(i)(IV).

(2) **AGENCY REGULATIONS.**—The regulations prescribed under paragraph (1) shall be the same as substantive regulations promulgated by the Secretary to carry out this Act except insofar as the President (or designee) may determine, for good cause shown and stated together with the regulations prescribed under paragraph (1), that a modification of such regulations would be more effective for the implementation of the rights and protections involved under this section.

(d) **EMPLOYEES COVERED BY CHAPTER 63 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE.**—

(1) **AUTHORITY.**—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the Office of Personnel Management shall prescribe such regulations as are necessary to carry out this Act with respect to employees described in section 4(2)(A)(v) and other individuals affected by employers described in section 4(3)(A)(i)(V).

(2) **AGENCY REGULATIONS.**—The regulations prescribed under paragraph (1) shall be the same as substantive regulations promulgated by the Secretary to carry out this Act except insofar as the Director may determine, for good cause shown and stated together with the regulations prescribed under paragraph (1), that a modification of such regulations would be more effective for the implementation of the rights and protections involved under this section.

SEC. 14. EFFECTIVE DATES.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—This Act shall take effect 1 year after the date of issuance of regulations under section 13(a)(1).

(b) **COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS.**—In the case of a collective bargaining agreement in effect on the effective date prescribed by subsection (a), this Act shall take effect on the earlier of—

(1) the date of the termination of such agreement; or

(2) the date that occurs 18 months after the date of issuance of regulations under section 13(a)(1).

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 107—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT NO ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN TO UNDERMINE THE SAFETY OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES OR IMPACT THEIR ABILITY TO COMPLETE THEIR ASSIGNED OR FUTURE MISSIONS

Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Mr. LEVIN) submitted the following resolution; which was submitted and read:

S. RES. 107

Whereas under the Constitution, the President and Congress have shared responsibilities for decisions on the use of the Armed Forces of the United States, including their mission, and for supporting the Armed Forces, especially during wartime;

Whereas when the Armed Forces are deployed in harm's way, the President, Congress, and the Nation should give them all the support they need in order to maintain their safety and accomplish their assigned or future missions, including the training, equipment, logistics, and funding necessary to ensure their safety and effectiveness, and such support is the responsibility of both the

Executive Branch and the Legislative Branch of Government; and

Whereas thousands of members of the Armed Forces who have fought bravely in Iraq and Afghanistan are not receiving the kind of medical care and other support this Nation owes them when they return home: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the President and Congress should not take any action that will endanger the Armed Forces of the United States, and will provide necessary funds for training, equipment, and other support for troops in the field, as such actions will ensure their safety and effectiveness in preparing for and carrying out their assigned missions;

(2) the President, Congress, and the Nation have an obligation to ensure that those who have bravely served this country in time of war receive the medical care and other support they deserve; and

(3) the President and Congress should—

(A) continue to exercise their constitutional responsibilities to ensure that the Armed Forces have everything they need to perform their assigned or future missions; and

(B) review, assess, and adjust United States policy and funding as needed to ensure our troops have the best chance for success in Iraq and elsewhere.

SENATE RESOLUTION 108—DESIGNATING THE FIRST WEEK OF APRIL 2007 AS "NATIONAL ASBESTOS AWARENESS WEEK"

Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Mr. REID, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. LEAHY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 108

Whereas there is no known safe level of exposure to asbestos;

Whereas deadly asbestos fibers are invisible and cannot be smelled or tasted;

Whereas when a person inhales or swallows airborne asbestos fibers, the damage is permanent and irreversible;

Whereas these fibers can cause mesothelioma, asbestosis, lung cancer, and pleural diseases;

Whereas asbestos-related diseases can take 10 to 50 years to present themselves;

Whereas the expected survival rate of individuals diagnosed with mesothelioma is between 6 and 24 months;

Whereas little is known about late-stage treatment and there is no cure for asbestos-related diseases;

Whereas early detection of asbestos-related diseases would give patients increased treatment options and often improve their prognoses;

Whereas asbestos is a toxic and dangerous substance and must be disposed of properly;

Whereas, in 1977, the International Agency for Research on Cancer classified asbestos as a Category 1 human carcinogen, the highest cancer hazard classification for a substance;

Whereas, in 2002, the United States Geological Survey reported that companies in the United States consumed 9,000 metric tons of asbestos, of which approximately 71 percent was consumed in roofing products, 18 percent in gaskets, 5 percent in friction products, and 6 percent in other products;

Whereas, in 2006, the World Health Organization issued a policy paper, and the International Labour Organization adopted a resolution, agreeing that all forms of asbestos